

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q78700

Michihiro SHIBATA

Appln. No.: 10/722,123

Group Art Unit: 1762

Confirmation No.: 4843

Examiner: Kirsten Jolley

Filed: November 26, 2003

For: OPTICAL RECORDING MEDIUM AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

Applicants note that EPA No. 0718048 listed in the European Search Report corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,837,319, which was previously cited in the Office Action dated March 17, 2006. Therefore, EPA No. 0718048 is not being submitted herewith.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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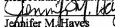
WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer M. Hayes
Registration No. 40,641

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			<i>Complete if Known</i>	
			Application Number	10/722,123
			Confirmation Number	4843
			Filing Date	November 26, 2003
			First Named Inventor	Michihiro SHIBATA
			Art Unit	1762
Sheet 1 of 1			Examiner Name	Kirsten Jolley
			Attorney Docket Number	Q78700

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ^a	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ^a	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁴
		Country Code ²	Number ³	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		EP	0356140	A2	02-28-1990	Hitachi Maxell, Ltd.	English
		JP	6-004910	A	01-14-1994	Sharp KK	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials ^a	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.			Translation ⁴

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

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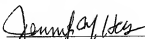
Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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